Ministry of Social Services

Annual Report for 2016-17

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Government of Saskatchewan

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Letters of Transmittal

Her Honour, the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield,
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Ministry of Social Services for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017.

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to increased accountability, to honouring its commitments, and to managing expenditures responsibly on behalf of Saskatchewan people.

We will continue to build on these achievements in the year ahead as we deliver on Government's commitments to the people of Saskatchewan.

Tina Beaudry-Mellor,
Minister of Social Services

Honourable Tina Beaudry-Mellor,
Minister of Social Services

Dear Minister:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Ministry of Social Services for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017.

I acknowledge responsibility for this report and assure that the information contained herein is accurate, complete, and reliable. I further acknowledge responsibility for the financial administration and management control of the Ministry.

J. Greg Miller,
Deputy Minister of Social Services

Introduction

The annual report for the Ministry of Social Services presents the Ministry's results on activities and outcomes for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017. It reports to the public and elected officials on public commitments made and other key accomplishments of the Ministry.

Results are provided on publicly communicated strategies, actions, and performance measures identified in the 2016-17 Plan.

The report also demonstrates progress made on Government commitments in the Government Direction for 2016-17: Keep Saskatchewan Strong, the Saskatchewan Plan for Growth – Vision 2020 and Beyond, throne speeches and other commitments and activities of the Ministry.

The annual report demonstrates the Ministry's commitment to effective public performance reporting, transparency, and accountability to the public.

Alignment with Government's Direction

The Ministry's activities in 2016-17 align with Government's vision and four goals:

Our Government's Vision

"... to be the best place in Canada to live, work, start a business, get an education, raise a family and build a life."

- **Sustaining growth and opportunity for Saskatchewan people**
- **Meeting the challenges of growth**
- **Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people**
- **Delivering responsive and responsible government**

Together, all ministries and agencies support the achievement of Government's four goals and work towards a secure and prosperous Saskatchewan.

Ministry Overview

As the Ministry of Social Services, we exist to help Saskatchewan's most vulnerable citizens who are often struggling through some of the most challenging times of their lives. We help keep Saskatchewan strong by supporting and strengthening its most precious resource – its people. Although we deliver programs and services to those in need, the most important thing we do is provide them with hope for the future.

Our Mission

We deliver programs and services that help people in need achieve a better quality of life.

Our Mandate

The Ministry helps children to be safe from abuse and neglect, and individuals to meet their basic needs and participate in their community.

The Ministry provides support to Saskatchewan people through income assistance, child and family services, supports for people experiencing disabilities, safe and affordable housing and building greater capacity in community-based organizations.

Social Services has a budget of $1.1 billion, is one of the largest ministries in the Government of Saskatchewan and serves more than 200,000 people each year – or about one in five Saskatchewan residents.

There are service centres in 20 communities and day offices in an additional 30 communities across the province that deliver programs to Saskatchewan citizens. People initially applying for income assistance programs may contact the Ministry through a central telephone-based Client Service Centre.

Citizens interact with the Ministry through face-to-face meetings in our offices, in-home meetings, telephone, email, through website inquiries or through our community-based partners across Saskatchewan.

Associated Offices:

Saskatchewan Housing Corporation

The Ministry offers housing programs and services through the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC), with offices in Regina and Saskatoon. SHC leads the development of the provincial housing policy and manages the financial contributions from the provincial, federal and municipal levels of government. SHC provides access to affordable, suitable and adequate housing to people in need in partnership with housing authorities, the public and the private sector.

The Status of Women Office

The Status of Women Office (SWO) raises awareness around issues affecting women and their families. SWO collaborates with government ministries, crown corporations, agencies and others to lead gender equality work across the province and to ensure gender considerations are included in government policy making, legislation and program development.

The Office of Disability Issues

The Office of Disability Issues focuses on government initiatives related to disabilities. The Office works with partners in the disability community, other ministries and the public.

Partnerships and Operating Agreements

The Ministry held about 800 contracts with approximately 200 community-based organizations across the province in 2016-17 – an investment of over $266 million. Community-based organizations offer a range of services, such as group homes for people experiencing intellectual disabilities or mobile crisis units.

260 housing authorities manage SHC's housing portfolio. Other housing partners include non-profit corporations and co-operatives, Aboriginal housing providers, and private landlords who own and manage housing for low- and moderate-income tenants. SHC also works with municipalities, government ministries and the federal government to find ways to integrate housing programs and services with other key initiatives.

Child protection services and services for children in care on-reserve are delegated to First Nations Child and Family Service Agencies through 17 Delegation Agreements between the Ministry and First Nations agencies. The Ministry also has separate agreements with three of these agencies to provide child protection services in particular off-reserve communities.

Our Progress in 2016-17

We are pleased to report on our Ministry progress in 2016-17. The work we accomplished in the past year was done in support of the Government of Saskatchewan's four goals.

Our work in 2016-17 focused on areas where the Ministry of Social Services could make the most difference in the lives of our vulnerable clients. To that end, our Ministry's three goals for 2016-17 align with the Government of Saskatchewan's.

But most importantly, they align with the needs of those we serve across the province.

Our goals are to ensure:

- Our programs and services set the foundation to meet our clients' basic needs.
- Citizens gain independence through self-reliance and prevention.
- Our people and our organization are effective and efficient.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people
Meeting the challenges of growth
Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people
Delivering responsive and responsible government

Our Goal:

Our programs and services set the foundation to meet our clients' basic needs.

The Importance of Housing

Many of us take housing for granted. Having a place to call home is such a basic need. The path to a better life begins with a place where families can put down roots, plan for their future, and become a part of the community. Safe, affordable housing not only improves the well-being of those in greatest need, but also strengthens the social fabric of our province, making life better for all Saskatchewan people.

Making Sure People in Need Have a Home

One of our Ministry's main concerns is making sure people in need have a home. Through the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC), we provide affordable, accessible housing to people in need and give them the foundation they need to build a better life.

SHC is the largest landlord in the province and owns more than 18,000 units. Non-profit groups and co-operatives operate more than 10,000 units, including more than 6,000 rental units and more than 3,700 special purpose housing units, such as special care home and group home beds. Through our Better Use policy we continue to evaluate SHC properties with chronic vacancies to find ways to best use our existing housing assets. We do this to make sure our housing programs are sustainable for the future and, most importantly, will better meet the needs of low-income people and families, those who are hard-to-house and those with complex needs.

We work hard to provide good, clean and safe homes for families, seniors, people experiencing disabilities and other Saskatchewan people. We value the feedback we get from our tenants and look to them for help in identifying things we can improve. In our 2016 tenant survey, we learned that 83 per cent of SHC tenants were satisfied with the services they receive.

Rental housing is becoming more abundant in Saskatchewan, but some families face affordability challenges. To address this, we began converting Affordable Housing Program units to Social Housing program units in 26 urban communities. By December 2016, 20 per cent of Affordable Housing program tenants had transitioned to the Social Housing program. This meant that more than 400 tenants saw reductions in their monthly rent. During this same time, nearly 40 per cent of Affordable Housing program tenants who no longer needed subsidized housing moved into market housing which opened up units for those in need.

In 2016[1], we invested more than $132 million to develop more than 1,000 units and repair more than 200 homes across the province. $112 million of this investment was through the HeadStart on a Home program. Since 2007, SHC has invested more than $750 million to build over 11,400 homeowner and rental units and to repair more than 4,000 homes.

Since 2007, 151 units have been completed or are under development through Habitat for Humanity (23 in 2016), and over 3,000 through the Rental Development Program (120 in 2016).

SHC also targeted investments to serve people in greatest housing need by supporting several government strategies including the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Provincial Disability Strategy, and the Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan. SHC works with the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors to increase housing supply, to improve housing affordability and to support individuals and families in greatest housing need. These include housing opportunities for persons experiencing mental illness, addictions, or a disability who may be hard-to-house.

In 2016, the Federal Government announced increased funding over two years through the Social Infrastructure Fund (SIF). We invested $40.37 million in 2016 towards the development of new affordable housing in Saskatchewan through constructing and renovating affordable housing for seniors and renovating shelters for victims of family violence.

We also invested $2.87 million since 2007 to support completion of 40 affordable rental units designed for people with disabilities through programs like the Summit Action Fund and the Rental Development Program. SHC also delivers the Adaptations for Independence Program which provides financial support to improve the accessibility of a home. In 2016, 100 units were completed for people considered hard-to-house or persons experiencing a disability.

SHC's rental housing portfolio contains approximately 700 rental units that are accessible and meet the housing needs of people experiencing disabilities. SHC also supports third-party organizations that provide housing to people experiencing disabilities. These organizations operate 17 independent living projects (totaling 369 units) and 39 full-support projects which house 268 people who experience mental illness or cognitive/physical disabilities.

Sometimes 15 Minutes is All it Takes to Change a Life

One of our clients, Wyatt, lived in a cabin alone far away from anyone. His cabin had no electricity, no running water, and he used wood to cook and keep warm. If he needed to travel, he hitchhiked. Wyatt was a quiet man, and we only saw him when it was time for his annual meeting. During his second annual meeting, Wyatt's worker asked why he lived in his cabin. Wyatt replied that he had nowhere else to go. So, his worker gave him a housing application and told him he'd be able to rent a home.

Wyatt called his worker and said "I am so happy. Thank you for helping me."

Sometimes 15 minutes is all you need to change a life.

After a couple of weeks, Wyatt's worker called the local housing authority to see if he had dropped off his application and found out he hadn't. The worker called Wyatt to see why he didn't fill out the form, and he said "I am okay where I am." The worker pressed on and asked why he wouldn't want to live closer to his family and have water, electricity and heat. After a few moments of silence, Wyatt revealed that he couldn't read or write and didn't understand the form. He told the worker that he was the eldest child in his family and that he had to hunt and fish to feed his family, so he couldn't go to school. The worker helped Wyatt fill out the housing application, found someone to complete his income taxes, and arranged funding for him to buy furniture.

After he was all moved in to his new rental home, Wyatt called his worker and said "I am so happy. Thank you for helping me."

Sometimes 15 minutes is all you need to change a life.

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1. *Data for SHC are presented in the calendar year (January 1 - December 31, 2016).*

Housing in the North

With its rich culture and beautiful landscapes, northern Saskatchewan is truly a treasure of our province. However, life in northern Saskatchewan brings with it some unique challenges – housing being one of them. It was important to us that we could find ways to address housing needs in the north while helping northern communities gain the skills and knowledge they need to plan for housing in their own communities.

In 2016, we got busy building! In June, we announced the development of a new 12-unit affordable rental housing project for elders in Pinehouse. We also sold six homes under the Northern Homeowner Initiative giving northern Saskatchewan residents the opportunity to achieve their dream of home ownership.

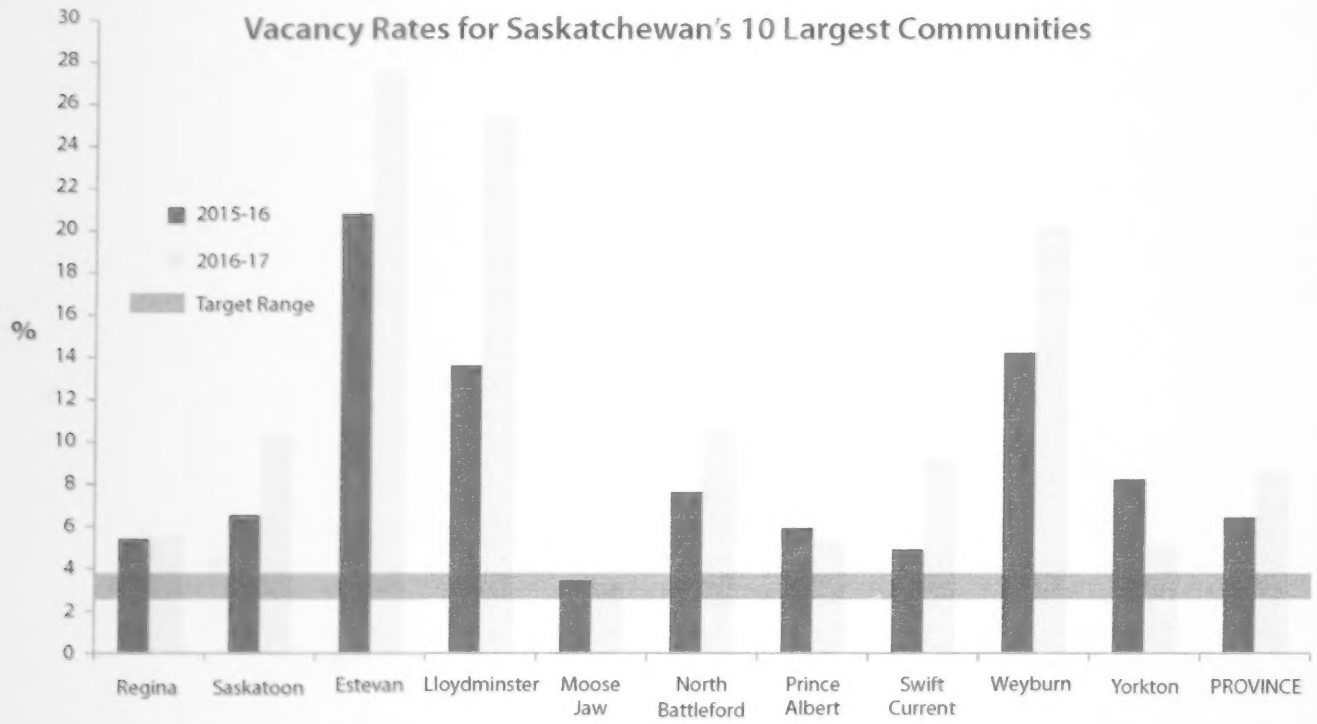
We also worked with a partner on an exciting opportunity to support people in the north with the skills to build their own homes and their own future. Saskatchewan Housing Corporation provided $225,000 in funding to the Northern Lights School Division's Trades Training Program to teach students carpentry skills and give them hands-on work experience as part of their school curriculum. Through this program, an incredible eight homes have been built in La Loche with the students doing much of the work themselves!

SHC has been part of the multi-agency group developing an action plan to address housing in La Loche. SHC has committed close to $1.5 million in funding for a 14-unit affordable rental housing project which includes 10 family units and four single units in a new subdivision in La Loche.

Managing Vacancy Rates

The Provincial Rental Vacancy Rate is measured by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and illustrates the percentage of private apartment units available for rent across the province. Vacancy rates have been increasing in Saskatchewan over the last number of years. Typically, a vacancy rate between 2.5 – 3.5 per cent provides good options for renters and a fair rate of return on investment for landlords.

We aim to achieve this balanced vacancy rate in Saskatchewan's largest communities. Currently, Moose Jaw is the only city in the province with a balanced vacancy rate of 3.3 per cent. As of October 2016, the provincial average vacancy rate is 8.6 per cent – a 2.2 percentage point increase from last year.



Investing in Affordable Housing

We also continued to work closely with our partners in the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) to invest in affordable housing in the past year.

On August 26, 2014, we signed a five-year extension to the Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH) Agreement with CMHC which invests approximately $92 million to ensure households in housing have improved access to affordable housing that is sound, suitable and sustainable.

As a result of the Investment in Affordable Housing in 2016-17, a total of 7,862 households are no longer in housing need. Thanks to these investments, the outcomes achieved include: the supply of affordable housing was increased by 147 units; 7,614 low-income households found affordable rents through shelter allowances; 7 new shelter spaces were completed for victims of family violence; 75 households are no longer living in inadequate conditions; and 9 seniors and 10 persons with disabilities received repairs or adaptations to their homes, allowing them to continue to live independently. Six of the IAH funded projects employed a total of 20 apprentices, thereby increasing awareness and promoting apprenticeship training,

Since 2011, a combined investment of close to $129 million has resulted in a total of 27,783 households no longer in housing need as a result of IAH.

The 2016 Social Infrastructure Fund (SIF) Agreement is a two-year agreement under the existing 2014-2019 Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH) Agreement. This new agreement will see up to $74.1 million invested in affordable housing in Saskatchewan between 2016 and 2018.

As a result of SIF funding to date, 10,223 households are no longer in housing need. These investments have resulted in the following outcomes: the supply of affordable housing was increased by the completion of 17 affordable housing units; 10,099 low-income households found affordable rents through shelter allowances; 94 households are no longer living in inadequate conditions, and; 13 seniors and people with disabilities received repairs or adaptations to their homes, allowing them to continue to live independently. Over the past year, four of the SIF funded projects employed a total of 13 apprentices. More households will be assisted in the second year of the program, including tenants of Social Housing who will benefit from improvements that will preserve aging units.

(If you are interested in learning more about the work we do with our federal housing partner, CMHC, you'll find additional detail in the back of this report - in Appendix B.)

First Home Plan

In May 2016, the Province, through the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation, began delivering the First Home Plan, a new initiative which allowed eligible post-secondary graduates to borrow up to $10,000 of their unused Graduate Retention Program (GRP) tax credits to put towards the down payment of their first home. The Plan was to help recent graduates who have the income to qualify for a mortgage but may be having challenges saving for a down payment.

In 2016, SHC advanced nearly $4 million in loans to help make homeownership a reality for these young people.

While the First Home Plan was suspended at the end of the year, the Province is proud to have helped more than 400 new graduates with the down payment on their first home in Saskatchewan. In 2016, SHC advanced nearly $4 million in loans to help make homeownership a reality for these young people.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people
Meeting the challenges of growth
Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people
Delivering responsive and responsible government

Our Goal:

Citizens gain independence through self-reliance and prevention.

We often meet Saskatchewan residents during the most difficult and challenging times of their lives, and we work together to help them overcome these struggles. Whether a client needs our help to find ways to manage a disability, learn new skills to get a job, or become a better parent, we are here to support them. No matter what their circumstances may be, we want to see every Saskatchewan citizen grow into the best version of themselves.

Improving Case Management

It is important to us that our clients receive the services and supports they need to help them improve their lives. We have a consistent focus on improving case management in our Income Assistance, Community Living Service Delivery and Child and Family Programs divisions that are based on best practices and client needs. Improving case management will help us make sure we meet the changing needs of our clients, better respond to those needs, and that they receive high-quality service every step of the way.

To do this, we will:

- strengthen our use of person-centred case planning;
- ensure clients are connected with the right supports and programs; and
- create standards and integrated human services supports.

Keeping Children Safe and Helping them Build a Bright Future

Children need stability in their early years so they can learn the skills they need to grow into successful adults. Children need love, attention and a strong support system to teach them how to navigate the world and discover the potential within themselves. It is important that all Saskatchewan children, no matter where they live, are safe, secure and given the support they need to build a happy future for themselves.

Seth and Brenna are parents who were addicted to intravenous drugs and whose two children were removed from their care due to safety issues. For three years, Seth and Brenna struggled to make positive changes or work towards family reunification. They had no support network and could not commit to their case plan with Social Services. Seth, however, had strong ties with Native Health Services who encouraged him to manage his health and make positive changes to his lifestyle.

Seth and Brenna's file was transferred to Jordyn, a child protection caseworker who is well-respected for her ability to work positively and successfully with complex, high-needs families. Jordyn arranged for Seth and Brenna to enter an intensive in-home support program for high-needs families who have exhausted almost all other supports and services. As part of the treatment plan, Seth and Brenna agreed to stay sober and abstain from drug use and began having supervised home visits with their children. However, during this time they had a third child who was removed from their care when officials learned Brenna was still using drugs. Jordyn was frank with Seth: he had to address the child protection concerns and show that he had the ability to safely care for his children.

Seth left no one in doubt of the strength of his commitment to his children, and after much hard work and demonstrating sobriety and stability, all three children were returned to Seth's care. The family now lives in a small town where life is more affordable.

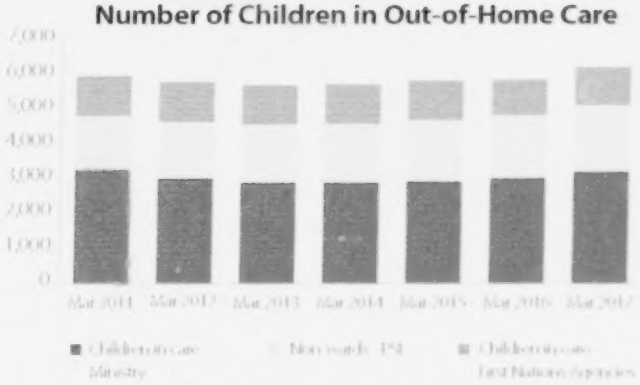
Seth's extended family is a strong, healthy support for him, and the family still remains close with Jordyn. When Jordyn told Seth that his family was doing so well that the Ministry was planning to close their file, Seth asked her not to in fear that the family would lose contact with her. We did close their file, but the family stays in close contact with Jordyn, and Seth sends her pictures regularly.

Seth believes that he is alive today because of the support of Social Services and Native Health Services.

Seth believes that he is alive today because of the support of Social Services and Native Health Services. Seth is now sharing his story with other people and families struggling with addictions. We are so proud of Seth and his family, of Jordyn's great work, and are grateful for the dedication and compassion of our community-based partners.

It is important to us that we find ways to keep families together. We're pleased to report that in 2016-17, almost 56 per cent of children who could not be cared for by their immediate family are now living with extended family members and caregivers. This demonstrates our commitment to keeping children safe while understanding the importance of keeping family bonds and traditions strong.

Number of Children in Out-of-Home Care



Child and Family Programs invests in programs and services to help families stay together safely. These include programs such as Positive Parenting, intensive in-home supports and an approach to child protection investigations encourages early referrals to community supports. As of March 31, 2017, 30 per cent fewer children entered out-of-home care due to neglect compared to March 31, 2016. This surpassed our target.

Our Partnership and Our Foundations

At the Ministry of Social Services, the safety and well-being of children in care is our number one priority. We have worked hard to make sure that the best interests of children and families are met through a number of programs and services.

The Positive Parenting Program (we call it Triple P) enhances the knowledge, skills and confidence of parents. We do this by engaging, encouraging and empowering families to manage common child and adolescent social skills, emotions and behaviours. The program continues to be delivered by community-based organizations in communities across the province.

The Flexible Response pilot continues to be a success. Flexible Response highlights family-focused, strength-based and culturally appropriate ways to support child safety and family well-being. We have decided to first expand the Flexible Response project to our south service area (Regina, Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Yorkton, Estevan, Weyburn and Fort Qu'Appelle) before rolling it out province-wide. We are also developing an Integrated Practice Strategy that will identify tools that can support staff in building stronger relationships with families, children and stakeholders.

Child welfare services delivered by First Nations Child and Family Service agencies are an important part of the Ministry's mandate. Status Indian, Métis, non-status Indian and Inuit children are significantly over-represented in the spectrum of child welfare services, so it is important that we have agreements in place with First Nations agencies to help deliver services. Strengthening our relationship with First Nations agencies that provide child welfare services is an important way for us to make sure children on and off reserve receive timely prevention and protection services.

We continue to support First Nations Child and Family Service agencies to pursue accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). Accreditation requires the agency to meet strict standards, and the three Saskatchewan agencies who have become accredited include Lac La Ronge Indian Child and Family Services, Peter Ballantyne Child and Family Services Agency and Sturgeon Lake Child and Family Services.

We continue to strengthen our investments in family-based care resources, specifically for infants in emergency situations and for large sibling groups. We have focused our efforts on improving education and finding more foster parents and care providers. We launched Parenting Resources Information Development Education (PRIDE) online training for prospective foster and adoptive parents. This makes training more flexible, accessible and allows potential foster families to learn at their own pace and on their own schedule. We also worked with the Saskatchewan Foster Families Association (SFFA) on a targeted awareness campaign to help grow the number of foster families in Yorkton, Meadow Lake/North Battleford, Saskatoon and Swift Current. The results have been very positive. Saskatchewan gained nearly 70 new foster families in 2016, over 40 of which were from this campaign. We continue to work with the SFFA on this important work.

In the past year, we also reviewed and updated child welfare legislation as a way to renew the system, and strengthen accountability. We also updated *The Adoption Act* and *Regulations* to give adoptees and birth parents improved access to birth registration information and to help them search for family information if they so choose. Adoptees and birth parents are

encouraged to visit *www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/births-deaths-marriages-and-divorces/birthsand-adoptions/adoption/post-adoption-services* for important information.

Better Together with Our Community Partners

Community-based organizations (CBOs) provide valuable services and supports to all kinds of people across the province. Whether helping people experiencing disabilities find work, building affordable housing for low-income people or helping families become stronger, CBOs play an important role in helping Saskatchewan people.

One of our community-based organizations, Saskatchewan Abilities Council (SAC), helps people experiencing disabilities build independence and become part of the community. They noticed that young people were expected to find jobs in the field of their choice, but often needed some support to do this. Through a new initiative called the Saskatchewan Employment Transition Initiative and the Community Initiatives Fund, SAC set up job-related training that helps their clients with interview and communication skills, resume building and tips on what to wear for that important job interview.

SAC helped Garrett, one of their clients, get a job at a local golf course. With their support, he did the interview on his own, got the job, and is now happily employed and part of the team. Garrett clears tables, stocks supplies and helps prepare the golf course, but his favourite responsibility by far is driving the golf carts. His manager says he fits right in with his co-workers, does the same tasks as they do, and receives the same respect. He is dedicated to doing things and to doing them right. His manager says Garrett's co-workers see him working hard just like them, and that this opens up their world a little more.

We're pleased to have the opportunity to partner with over 200 CBOs that work with people experiencing disabilities, people in need of housing, and children and families to help make dreams come true for people just like Garrett.

It is important to us that the CBO sector stays strong, which is why we are continuing to work together with the sector on the CBO Sustainability Project to make sure they have the supports, tools and stability to continue their good work serving people in need.

Work is progressing on the CBO Sustainability Project. There are five tasks teams that meet regularly and work on different priorities to address concerns in CBO sector, including governance, quality assurance, human resource pressures, shared services and outcomes-based service delivery. Opportunities for enhanced shared services were identified and will be worked on in the coming year. A governance road map was developed and will be shared in the CBO sector as a way to support good models for board governance. This work has identified opportunities to pilot outcomes measurement, and we plan to pursue this in 2017-18.

Garrett's manager says he fits right in with his co-workers, and does the same tasks they do.

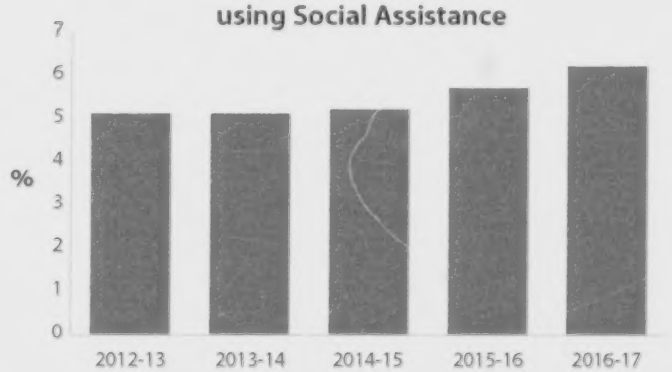
Helping People on Income Assistance Find Independence

While we continue to invest in our income assistance programs to meet our clients' needs, we recognize that our programs are outdated and, at times, overly complex. We need programs that are simpler for clients and staff, focus on the basic needs of our most vulnerable citizens and are sustainable for the future. The work that is underway on income assistance redesign will transform our current programs and help us achieve these goals. This is a major project that will make our programs easier to navigate, more targeted to people in greatest need, more supportive of positive client outcomes and more financially sustainable.

Our programs are meant to help people overcome their difficulties and find ways to help themselves. In 2016-17, the number of people receiving support from the Saskatchewan Assistance Program (SAP) and the Transitional Employment Allowance (TEA) was just under four per cent. About two per cent of our population received benefits from the Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID) program.

We also track the time it takes for clients who are able to work to move off income assistance (SAP and TEA) within six months. More than 80 per cent of clients did this last year.

People in Saskatchewan using Social Assistance



In 2016-17, we increased the budgets for all three of our major income assistance programs (SAP, SAID and TEA), as well as the Saskatchewan Employment Supplement, Personal Care Home Benefit, Saskatchewan Rental Housing Subsidy and Seniors Income Plan.

Reducing Poverty

To help people with low-income overcome their challenges, we continue to work towards implementation of the Saskatchewan Poverty Reduction Strategy. We have set an ambitious target of reducing the amount of people who experience poverty for two or more years by 50 per cent by 2025. This is a challenging goal but an important target that will help people secure a better quality of life and ensure there are supports in place to help the province's most vulnerable people.

To reach this goal, Government is focusing on three early actions, including the income assistance redesign project, the Saskatchewan Early Years Plan and finding housing opportunities for people considered hard-to-house, who often have mental health or addictions challenges.

Investing in Independence and Welcoming Valley View Centre Residents into the Community

Moving is stressful for everyone. Whether you're moving into a new house or to a new community, challenges are bound to spring up. These same challenges exist for clients of Valley View Centre who are moving into their communities of choice. Many Valley View residents have lived at the Centre their entire lives, so you can imagine what a big change this can be!

Jade was excited to move from Valley View Centre into a group home in Regina last year. We worked with Jade to plan the perfect home for her that would support her needs, but more importantly, we made sure we built a relationship between Jade and the CBO running her future home.

Throughout the transition to her new home, Jade learned the importance of building positive relationships and boundaries through the support of Valley View Centre and the agency staff whose thoughtful, caring and planned approach to Jade's move made it a success.

Jade was involved in every aspect of her transition. Staff from the CBO spent a great deal of time at Valley View Centre learning about Jade's needs, hopes and dreams. Jade also visited Regina to help get her new home ready before she moved in, and her new friends at the CBO took her shopping for furniture and decorations to help make her new space feel like home.

We are delighted to report that Jade is thriving in her new home! She is no longer on medication to control her diabetes and has lost over 10 pounds. She is looking for volunteer opportunities in the community and hopes that she'll one day have gainful, paid employment. She is often seen having coffee with her new friends and is always happy to return to her home in Regina!

Throughout the transition to her new home, Jade learned the importance of building positive relationships and boundaries through the support of Valley View Centre and the CBO staff whose thoughtful, caring and planned approach to Jade's move made it a success.

We announced the closure of Valley View Centre in 2012 because we believe that community inclusion is key to improving the quality of life for people experiencing disabilities. We are working closely with Valley View Centre residents and their loved ones to plan for their future lives in Saskatchewan communities. To do this, we use a person-centred planning process that considers their hopes, dreams and personal goals when helping them find a new home in a community of their choice. All residents of Valley View Centre have taken part in the first stage of planning called Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope (PATH) and as of the end of 2016-17, 47 people have transitioned into the community – 18 of which took place this year. 115 people still live at Valley View Centre, and we continue to work with community-based organizations across the province to develop group homes and community supports so the remaining residents can experience the joy that community inclusion brings.

Another part of the Valley View Centre transition involves building crisis prevention and outreach supports. These supports help people, families, agencies and communities avoid crises and make sure that the transitions from Valley View Centre are successful and person-centred. So far, two safety net homes have opened, and we are looking at developing a third location.

Improving Life for People Experiencing Disabilities

The Saskatchewan Disability Strategy aims to transform our disability programs and services to support the inclusion of people experiencing disabilities. Seven ministries, including Social Services, Advanced Education, Economy, Education, Government Relations, Health and Justice, are involved in developing a 10-year implementation plan that addresses:

- "Where to Start" actions for each of the 12 Disability Strategy recommendations;
- actions and initiatives that align with government's priorities and resources;
- performance measures;
- accountability framework; and
- ways to engage other levels of government and sectors.

An initial priority of the Disability Strategy was to review residential options and funding models for respite services. When a person goes to a respite facility, it is often like going to summer camp. It's a fun-filled, busy environment for people experiencing disabilities and it gives their caregivers a bit of a break. Respite services help individuals experiencing intellectual disabilities stay in their own communities and homes while temporarily taking pressure off of caregivers and other resources to allow them time to recharge and attend to their own wellbeing.

Brad and Dawn's son Peter had the chance to stay at the Southwood Respite Facility for one week early this summer. This was an exciting opportunity for Peter because there are not many respite options available in his hometown. Peter's parents said they were impressed by the warmth and enthusiasm of the Southwood staff and that when they came to pick Peter up, he didn't want to leave! They said it was a truly wonderful experience for him, and they hope he can return again for another break from "his aging, boring parents" (we are sure that is not true!) Brad and Dawn commended Southwood staff for their energy and professionalism and said they "bring sunshine to our lives."

Continuing the Success of Self-Directed Funding

Self-directed funding (SDF) is a new funding mechanism that gives people experiencing disabilities more control and choice over their lives as it allows them to choose supports that meet their needs and help them reach their goals.

Under the traditional model, funding goes to community-based organizations, but under SDF funding, it goes directly to the person. This approach allows the individual and their support team to have greater choice over which supports and services they would like to access depending on their own unique needs and aspirations.

Dylan was one of the first people in Saskatchewan to try self-directed funding. Dylan's mom, Tanya, said "Self-Directed Funding allows Dylan to be the person he wants to be. We were trying to fit Dylan into supports, services and programs that were designed to fit a generic population." This new funding choice allows Dylan the autonomy to choose the services he enjoys and that work best for his needs.

Dylan now has the freedom to create his own plan of daily living that puts joy in his life, light in his eyes and hope in his dreams. He lives in his own home with his brother where he can grow, mature and live life on his own terms.

Dylan's mom Tanya, said "Self-Directed Funding allows Dylan to be the person he wants to be."

Tanya said she has been overwhelmed by Dylan's growth since starting SDF. "Like every parent, I hoped and dreamed that Dylan would have a good life if he had the appropriate supports, and Self-Directed Funding has given Dylan that opportunity. I am so grateful."

The Self-Directed Funding pilot wrapped up on June 30, 2016, with six of the eight original participants signing an SDF contract. A project evaluation and action plan has been developed, along with an implementation plan for SDF to be rolled out province-wide, and the Ministry has reached out to clients who are interested in choosing the SDF option.

Improving the Cognitive Disability Strategy

The Cognitive Disability Strategy (CDS) is a program available to people experiencing cognitive disabilities:

- to address unmet needs;
- to provide training opportunities for individuals experiencing cognitive disabilities and their families; and
- for prevention and intervention efforts.

One of the commitments of the Saskatchewan Disability Strategy was to review CDS to identify service gaps, improve processes and to make sure the strategy is sustainable. We teamed up with the Ministries of Health and Education to develop ideas for future CDS policy, and these recommendations will be made to the CDS steering committee in 2017-18.

Government Goals

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

Our Goal:

Our people and our organization are effective and efficient.

Our Ministry served about 200,000 people this year – nearly one in five Saskatchewan citizens. We are committed to helping our clients through person-centred service so they get the right help at the right time. At the same time, we want to make sure that our ministry is a high-performing, safe, healthy and welcoming environment for our employees.

We are always looking at ways to improve our programs and services and the way they are delivered, and we try to involve clients as much as we can through pilots, reviews, evaluations and design and process improvements. In 2016-17 we:

- strengthened our analytics function;
- reviewed nine programs;
- did four evaluations; and
- led eight process improvement events.

We also continued our commitment to excellence in the delivery of programs and services in collaboration with our partners in other ministries, the community and different levels of government.

Our Ministry served 200,000 people this year – nearly one in five Saskatchewan citizens.

Being Accountable

As dedicated public servants, it is our duty to be accountable to the public. We are supported by the people of Saskatchewan, and it is important that we show how we use our funding to serve them.

We worked with the Ministry of Finance to manage our budget. We submitted monthly expense forecasts, monitored caseloads on a monthly basis and found ways to save money where possible. Using process improvements, we found over $50,000 in savings. We also completed our four-year rolling strategic plan which will be used to plan for our activities in 2017-18.

We worked on developing a Continuous Improvement Framework that looks at ways to review programs, regulations and processes. This gives us evidence-based recommendations to help make sure our programs are efficient, effective and use public funds appropriately.

Two examples of this work from 2016-17 include reviews of the Self-Directed Funding and Flexible Response pilots. Self-Directed Funding allows individuals experiencing intellectual disabilities to choose supports that meet their needs and reach their goals. Our review found the pilot provides clients select services that meet their needs which gives them greater choice and control over major life decisions.

The Ministry and the Saskatchewan Association of Community Living worked collaboratively on all elements of the pilot design. The SDF pilot was initiated in June 2014 and concluded in June 2016. As of April 1, 2017, SDF has been added to the array of Community Living Service Delivery service options for adults experiencing intellectual disabilities.

This year we also completed an evaluation of an emerging approach to child protection investigations which we piloted in Saskatoon. This culturally-relevant approach shifted intake and investigation procedures towards increased engagement with First Nations and Métis stakeholders, group decision-making and earlier supports services referrals. Not only did this evaluation show us that families appreciated this approach, but fewer children were removed from family care than in the previous year. Plans are underway to incorporate elements of this approach throughout the province.

The work our ministry does every day is enormously important for the province's most vulnerable people, and efforts to improve how we do this work are ongoing. These pilots and reviews are excellent examples of innovative approaches that allow us to better meet our clients' needs

Working with Our Valued Partners

This year we continued to work with other governments, ministries and community partners to find ways to help Saskatchewan people.

We worked on the Shared Agenda as a ministry partner to help meet the needs of children, youth and families who experience complex issues. The Flexible Response, Positive Parenting Program and Intensive In-Home Supports reinforce this work.

The Ministry continued to work with our valued community partners to review the sustainability of the community-based organization (CBO) sector and to find ways to support and strengthen their efforts to recruit and retain staff.

We are a partner in the Community Safety and Wellbeing initiative designed to bring agencies together to deliver a range of human services in an integrated, timely manner.

We also joined the Ministries of Justice, Health and Education to evaluate the Healthy Families Unit.

Our work on Social Impact Bond development continued with the Ministry of Health and the Legislative Secretary for Social Impact Bonds. This pay-for-performance mechanism allows government and communities to proceed with social innovation projects more quickly while also increasing the accountability and transparency of the project.

We continued to work with other ministries who support our work on the Poverty Reduction Strategy and Disability Strategy, took part in seven cross-ministry research projects, and joined all of government in finding ways to support the people of La Loche during their time of crisis.

We are collaborating with the Ministry of Justice on a Domestic Violence Death Review intended to provide important information for determining the province's response to domestic violence. A final report is set to be released in the fall of 2017 for this purpose.

Keeping Employees Safe at Work

Our employees work hard and sometimes, despite best efforts, they get injured at the workplace. We share in the *Mission: Zero* message and are committed to reducing the number of workplace injuries in our ministry.

In 2016-17, we reduced our workplace injury rate from 5.5 per cent to 4.2 per cent. A total of 920 days were lost due to workplace injuries – an improvement from last year's 1,727 days.

Our ministry works with Saskatchewan people during the most challenging times of their lives, and it is easy for this to take a toll on our staff.

Our ministry works with Saskatchewan people during the most challenging times of their lives, and it is easy for this to take a toll on our staff. We encourage our staff to connect with Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) when they feel they need access to counselling and assessment services. Following the tragedy in La Loche, we worked with a psychologist to offer services to our staff and their families not normally covered by EFAP, including trauma and grief counselling and education on coping mechanisms. We worked with our staff to develop a plan to support their La Loche colleagues and ensure they could attend the one year anniversary memorial event, while maintaining supports in that community for our clients.

Building Our Corporate Culture

We do important work, and we want to make sure that our employees are safe, healthy and happy. We are always looking for ways to build and enrich our corporate culture, encourage diversity and listen to what our employees say they need to do their job well.

To share ideas, projects and programs happening across the Ministry, we launched a quarterly staff newsletter this past year. This helps keep employees informed and engaged with work happening across the Ministry that they may not have a chance to learn about in their own roles.

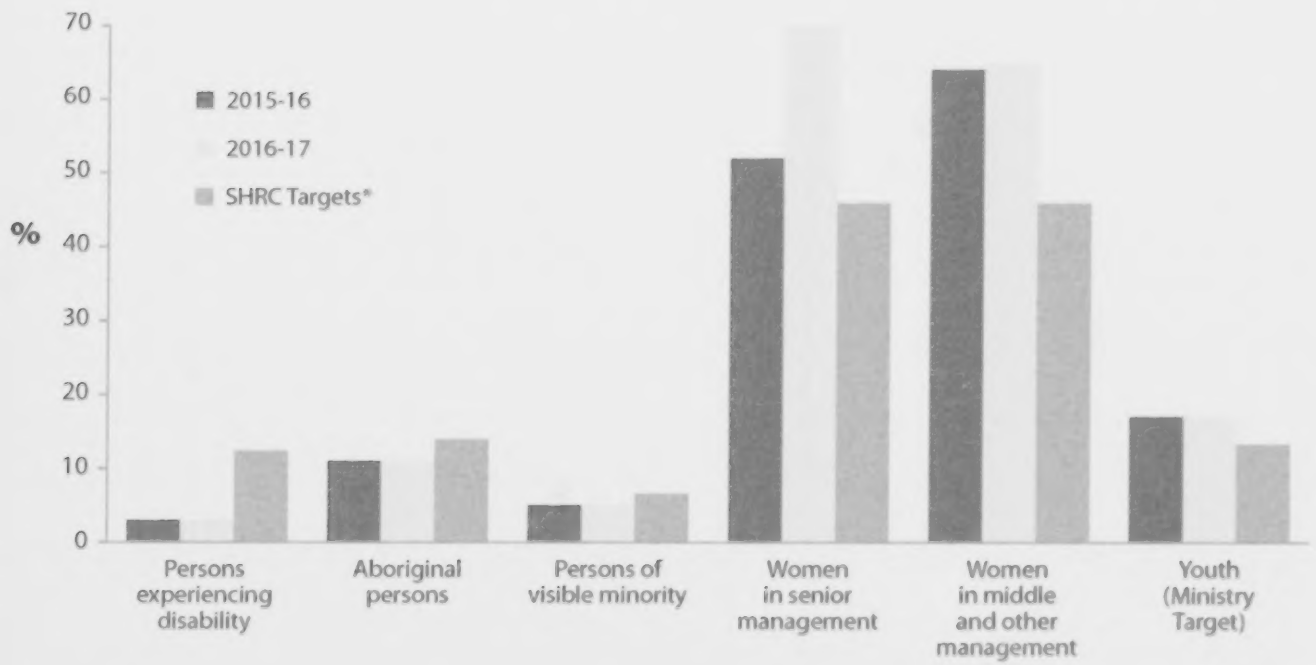
Our Culture Committee continued to work on ways to communicate with employees and keep them informed and engaged. We once again encouraged employees to nominate each other for the Ministry Culture Awards to recognize colleagues for their great work and for aligning that work with greater government objectives. Employees were awarded for Respect and Integrity; Serving Citizens; Excellence and Innovation; for working as One Team; and Service Excellence.

We also conducted another employee engagement survey in October 2016 to find out what each employee likes about working here, what challenges they have, and what they need to do better. We were happy to see the response rate increase by seven percentage points last year with our Employee Engagement Index sitting at 56 per cent.

We continued to work toward our goal of hiring and retaining a diverse workforce and creating a culture of inclusion. In 2016-17, eleven per cent of our employees reported as being aboriginal, 10 per cent of summer students reported as being aboriginal and 4.5 per cent reported as being a visible minority. We welcomed students from Winston Knoll Collegiate who participated in work placements with us to support their Functionally Integrated Academic Program. This gives students experiencing disabilities the chance to gain work experience while helping us build an inclusive workplace. We also hired two women to the role of Assistant Deputy Minister; an important step forward in reaching gender parity in senior government positions.

While there is still more work to be done for people in need across Saskatchewan, the Ministry of Social Services is proud of the work we did to help our clients last year. The stories we shared in this annual report are just a few examples of the wonderful people we had the opportunity to support in realizing their dreams of independence and fuller lives.

Workforce Diversity



2016-17 Financial Overview

Expenditures

The Ministry's actual expenditures for 2016-17 were almost $1.104 billion and were approximately $54 million over the original budgeted appropriation of $1.049 billion. The Ministry was provided additional funds through a Supplementary Estimate to address increased caseloads for certain income assistance programs, additional supports for Child and Family Programs and increased Child and Family Programs salary costs.

Nearly three quarters of the budget shortfall was comprised of the Saskatchewan Assistance Program, Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability, Transitional Employment Allowance and Rental Housing Supplements requiring additional funding due to increased caseloads and cost per case. The remaining shortfall was made up of increased costs of providing supports for child welfare maintenance and support, primarily from the increased need for emergency receiving spaces.

Revenues

Social Services collects revenues related to fees from the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation, transfers from the federal government and receipts from clients who have been overpaid public assistance benefits in prior years. All revenue collected is deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

In 2016-17, the Ministry recorded revenue of $38.0 million as compared to the budget of $31.3 million. The increase in actual revenue over the budgeted amount is primarily due to an increase in federal government transfer payments related to Children's Special Allowances transferred to the Province per the federal *Children's Special Allowances Act (CSA Act)*.

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Utilization

The Ministry's 2016-17 FTE budget was 1,706.7. The actual FTE utilization for the year was 1,817.8 FTEs, of which 43.5 FTEs were for students. The remaining over-utilization of 67.6 FTEs was primarily related to the increasing number of caseloads for Income Assistance Service Delivery and Child and Family Services, as well as over-utilization during the Valley View transition as crisis prevention and support programs are being developed.

Other

The Ministry is responsible for Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC) which is a Treasury Board Crown corporation. Information on housing, including SHC's annual report for its fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, can be found at *www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/crown-corporations/saskatchewan-housing-corporation*.

2016-17 Expenditure Results

The following table outlines actual and budgeted expenditures by subvote and subprogram and provides explanations for significant variances.

Subvote/Allocation	2015-16 Actual	2016-17 Budget	2016-17 Actual	Variance Over/ (Under)	Notes
	(in thousands of dollars)				
Central Management and Services (SS01)					
Minister's Salary	$ 48	$ 49	$ 49	$ 0	
Executive Management	1,792	1,704	2,151	447	
Central Services	36,167	26,300	24,561	(1,739)	1
Accommodation Services	22,533	21,294	19,841	(1,453)	2
Subvote Total	**$ 60,540**	**$ 49,347**	**$ 46,601**	**$ (2,746)**	
Income Assistance and Disability Services (SS03)					
Saskatchewan Assistance Program	$ 161,798	$ 153,579	$ 162,606	$ 9,027	3
Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability	210,362	210,090	222,377	12,287	3
Transitional Employment Allowance	26,810	36,524	48,016	11,492	3
Seniors Income Plan	27,191	26,204	26,825	621	4
Saskatchewan Employment Supplement	15,616	12,635	14,510	1,875	5
Child Care Parent Subsidies	14,292	14,085	14,165	80	
Rental Housing Supplements	41,417	37,250	45,940	8,690	6
Income Assistance Community Services	2,810	2,863	2,979	116	
Disabilities Community-Based Organizations	161,404	175,906	167,507	(8,399)	7
Income Assistance and Disability Services Program Delivery	54,637	53,368	56,732	3,364	8
Seniors Personal Care Home Benefit	4,056	3,696	3,834	138	
Subvote Total	**$ 720,393**	**$ 726,200**	**$ 765,491**	**$ 39,291**	
Child and Family Services (SS04)					
Child and Family Program Maintenance and Support	$ 115,716	$ 113,850	$ 129,680	$ 15,830	9
Child and Family Community-Based Organization Services	84,854	87,056	90,150	3,094	10
Child and Family Program Delivery	45,716	42,005	46,898	4,893	11
Subvote Total	**$ 246,286**	**$ 242,911**	**$ 266,728**	**$ 23,817**	
Client Support (SS05)					
Service Centre Client Support	$ 12,200	$ 12,193	$ 12,346	$ 153	
Case Management Project	4,252	--	--	--	
Subvote Total	**$ 16,452**	**$ 12,193**	**$ 12,346**	**$ 153**	
Housing (SS12)					
Program Delivery	$ 6,348	$ 7,016	$ 6,251	$ (765)	12
Saskatchewan Housing Corporation	1,555	11,755	6,255	(5,500)	13
Subvote Total	**$ 7,903**	**$ 18,771**	**$ 12,506**	**$ (6,265)**	
Total Expenditure	**$ 1,051,574**	**$ 1,049,422**	**$ 1,103,672**	**$ 54,250**	
Less: Capital Asset Acquisitions	(6,342)	(3,525)	(1,074)	2,451	14
Add: Non-Appropriated Expense Adjustment	5,737	6,343	5,867	(476)	
Total Expense	**$ 1,050,969**	**$ 1,052,240**	**$ 1,108,465**	**$ 56,225**	

Explanation of Significant Variances:

1. The under expenditure is primarily due to information technology service cost savings.
2. Savings in capital expenditures are primarily due to the decision to defer a construction project.
3. The variance is primarily attributed to a higher caseload compared to budget. Supplementary Estimate funding of $36.7 million was provided for Saskatchewan Assistance Program, Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability, and Transitional Employment Allowance to manage caseload pressures.
4. The over expenditure is due to a higher caseload compared to budget.
5. The variance relates to a higher caseload and cost per case compared to budget.
6. The over expenditure is mainly due to a higher caseload compared to budget. Supplementary Estimate funding of $6.72 million was provided for Rental Housing Supplements.
7. The variance relates to reduced spending on third-party capital transfers than originally planned, recoveries from contract amendments during the year, and delayed implementation of some programs.
8. The over expenditure relates to additional staffing for Income Assistance Service Delivery due to caseload pressures in addition to severance costs.
9. The variance is primarily attributed to increased caseload in emergency receiving and extended family, and payments for special needs. As well, private treatment costs exceeded budget due to higher than anticipated utilization. Supplementary Estimate funding of $9 million was provided to cover the increased costs.
10. The over expenditure is mainly the result of costs for additional emergency receiving spaces.
11. The Ministry received Supplementary Estimates of $2.6 million during the year to cover salary cost pressures.
12. Salary costs savings related to vacancies.
13. The transfer payment to the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation was reduced as the full amount was not required.
14. The variance is primarily due to the deferral of a construction project.

Third-party Funding

In 2016-17, the Ministry provided $342.7 million in funding to third parties, the majority of which was provided to community-based organizations.

2016-17 Revenue Results

A summary of the Ministry's 2016-17 budgeted revenue compared to actual revenue is presented below with explanations for significant variances.

	(in thousands of dollars)				
Revenue by Source	2015-16 Actual	2016-17 Budget	2016-17 Actual	Variance Over/ (Under)	Notes
Sales, Services and Service Fees					
Management and Collection Services	$ 4,710	$ 4,710	$ 4,710	$ --	
Miscellaneous Medical and Institutional Services	748	674	944	270	
Other Miscellaneous Services	13	2	3	1	
Miscellaneous Deductions from Staff Salaries	48	66	42	(24)	
Subtotal	$ 5,519	$ 5,452	$ 5,699	$ 247	
Transfers from the Federal Government					
Young Offenders Agreement	$ 1,588	$ 942	$ 941	$ (1)	
Special Allowance for Children in Care	21,677	19,200	25,479	6,279	1
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada	9,370	3,016	2,262	(754)	2
Subtotal	$ 32,635	$ 23,158	$ 28,682	$ 5,524	
Other Revenue					
Maintenance Order Revenues	$ 734	$ 625	$ 789	$ 164	
Casual Revenue	18	45	75	30	
Repayment - Public Assistance	2,871	1,500	1,499	(1)	
Refunds of Previous Years' Expenses	374	500	1,257	757	3
Collection Agency Fees Withheld	(29)	--	(23)	(23)	
Subtotal	$ 3,968	$ 2,670	$ 3,597	$ 927	
Total Revenue	**$ 42,122**	**$ 31,280**	**$ 37,978**	**$ 6,698**	

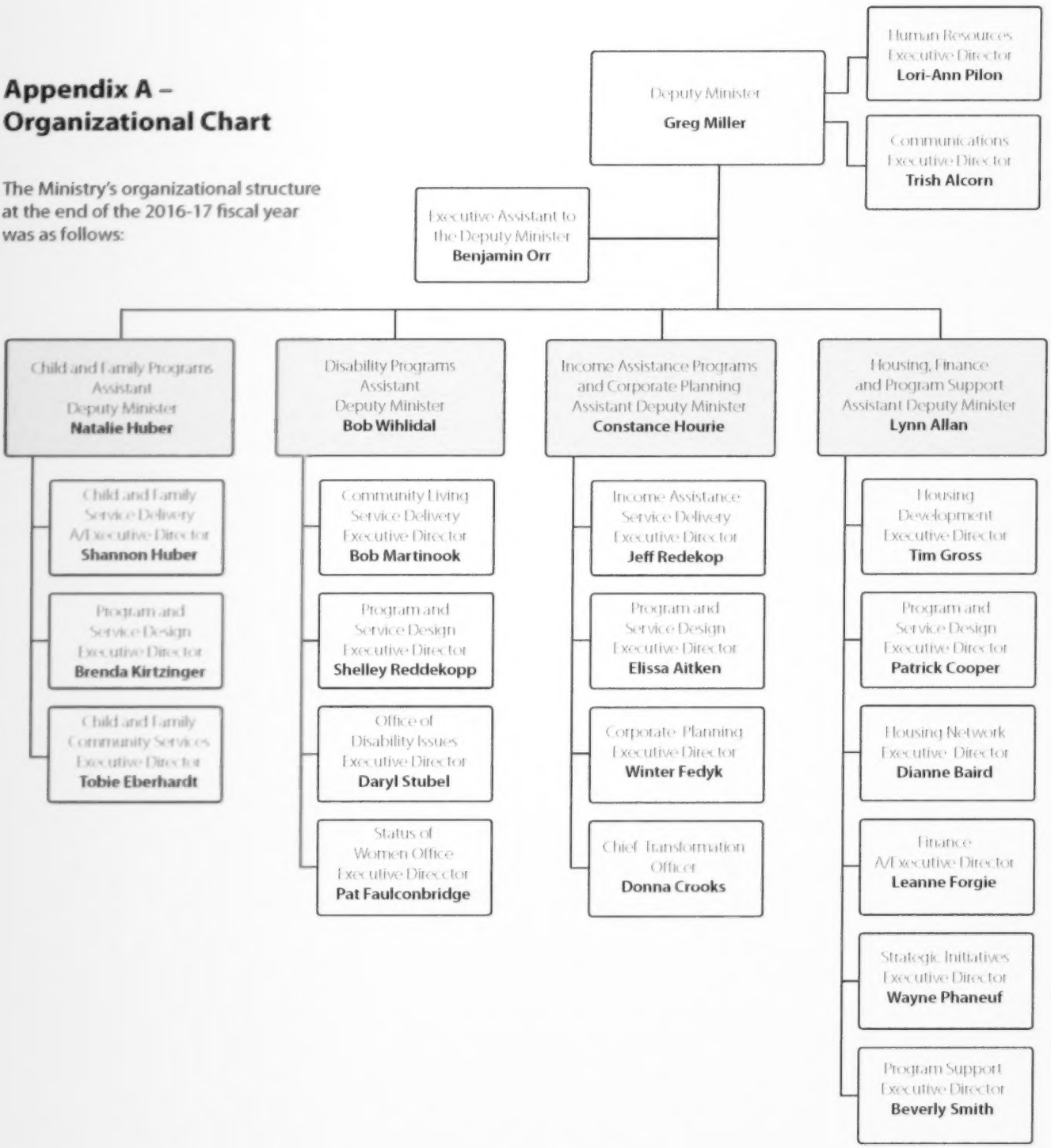
Explanation of Significant Variances:

1. Effective July 1, 2016, the federal government implemented the Canada Child Benefit which also resulted in changes for the Children's Special Allowances paid to federal or provincial ministries, child welfare agencies or institutions, on behalf of children in their care.
2. The year-end variance primarily relates to timing of reimbursements from INAC for child welfare expenses for children on reserve.
3. Upon the closure of the bank account for the Child and Family Programs' retired payment system, outstanding items were reversed and the balance of the account was recorded as revenue to the General Revenue Fund.

Appendices

Appendix A – Organizational Chart

The Ministry's organizational structure at the end of the 2016-17 fiscal year was as follows:



Appendix B - Our Work with our Federal Housing Partner CMHC

Table 1: Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH) Year Six Report[1]

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	
Outcomes and Indicators	**2011-12**	**2012-13**	**2013-14**	**2014-15**	**2015-16**	**2016-17**	**Total to Date**
Reduce the number of households in need by improving access to Affordable Housing that is sound, suitable and sustainable for households in need.							
Number of new units created to increase the supply of affordable housing	2	123	237	203	206	147	918
Number of households benefitting from shelter allowances					17,673	7,614	25,287
Number of victims of family violence (households) who were able to leave violent situations	--	--	8	6	15	7	36
Prevent the loss of affordable housing stock.							
Number of households who are no longer living in inadequate conditions as a result of repair programs	52	384	323	232	326	75	1,392
Reduce the demand for services and institutional living by increasing and extending independent living for householdls in need.							
Number of seniors (households) of persons with disabilities (households) who are able to remain living independently	6	39	25	13	48	19	150
Total Number of households no longer in housing need as a result of IAH funding	**60**	**546**	**593**	**454**	**18,268**	**7,862**	**27,783**
Foster the training of skilled labour by supporting apprenticeships in the residential housing sector.							
Number of projects emplyoying apprentices				3	10	6	19
Number of apprentices employed				--	112	20	132
Improve access to Affordable Housing and increase resources available to address the housing needs of households in need by encouraging contributions by others.							
Additional dollars generated toward addressing housing need through local partnerships *(thousands)*							$26,417

1. *To reflect results achieved, outcome numbers are based on unit completions. Due to the nature of construction and development time lags, numbers may differ from previous reports that were based on commitments.*

Table 2: Social Infrastructure Fund (SIF) Year One Report[2]

2016-2018 SIF Allocation Increase

	Year 1
Outcomes and Indicators	**2016-17**
Reduce the number of households in need by improving access to Affordable Housing that is sound, suitable and sustainable for households in need.	
Number of new units created to increase the supply of affordable housing	17
Number of households benefitting from shelter allowances	10,099
Number of victims of family violence (households) who were able to leave violent situations	
Prevent the loss of affordable housing stock.	
Number of households who are no longer living in inadequate conditions as a result of repair programs	28
Reduce the demand for services and institutional living by increasing and extending independent living for households in need.	
Number of seniors (households) or persons with disabilities (households) who are able to remain living independently	4
Subtotal	**10,148**

2016-2018 Special SIF funding

	Year 1
Outcomes and Indicators	**2016-17**
Reduce the number of households in need by improving access to Affordable Housing that is sound, suitable and sustainable for households in need.	
Number of senior households no longer in housing need as a result of SIF Program H-1 Seniors New Construction and Renovation	/5[3]
People (households) who were able to leave violent situations through SIF Program H-2 Victims of Family Violence New Construction and Renovation	
Number of Social Housing units improved and preserved through SIF Program H-3 Renovation and Retrofit of Social Housing	
Subtotal	**75**
Total Number of households no longer in housing need as a result of SIF Funding	**10,223**
Foster the training of skilled labour by supporting apprenticeships in the residential housing sector.	
Number of projects employing apprentices	4
Number of apprentices employed	13
Improve access to Affordable Housing and increase resources available to address the Housing needs of households in need by encouraging contributions by others.	
Additional dollars generated toward addressing housing need through local partnerships (thousands)	**$ 2,520**

2. *To reflect results achieved, outcome numbers are based on unit completions. Due to the nature of construction and development time lags, numbers may differ from previous reports that were based on commitments.*

3. *The 75 senior households include 66 whose homes were renovated and nine who received adaptations to live independently.*

Appendix C – Ministry of Social Services Legislation

- *The Adoption Act, 1998 / Loi de 1998 sur l'adoption*
- *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act*
- *The Child and Family Services Act*[1]
- *The Child Care Act, 2014*[2]
- *The Social Services Administration Act*[3]
- *The Donation of Food Act, 1995*
- *The Emergency Protection for Victims of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Act*
- *The Human Resources, Labour and Employment Act*[4]
- *The Intercountry Adoption (Hague Convention) Implementation Act*
- *The Rehabilitation Act*
- *The Residential Services Act*[5]
- *The Saskatchewan Assistance Act*
- *The Saskatchewan Housing Corporation Act*
- *The Saskatchewan Income Plan Act*
- *The Social Workers Act*
- *The Women's Affairs Act*

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1. *Except section 5, which is jointly assigned to the Ministers of Education and Social Services*
2. *Shared with the Ministry of Education*
3. *Sections 6, 7, 11-15 and 18, jointly assigned to the Ministers of Social Services, Justice and Attorney General, and Corrections and Public Safety; section 8 jointly assigned to the Ministers of Social Services and Education*
4. *Only with respect to section 4.03*
5. *Jointly assigned to the Ministers of Social Services; Health; Justice and Attorney General; and Corrections and Policing*

For More Information

Please visit *www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/social-services* for more information on the Ministry of Social Services' programs and services or call our Communications Branch at 306-787-3686.